How to Handle Employee Mistakes?

When John D Rockefeller ran the Standard Oil Company one of his senior executives made a mistake that cost over $2 million.

The other executives thought Rockefeller would come down heavy on him and probably fire him. But he didn't.

Before he called the man in, he sat down, took a notepad and wrote across the top
of it: 'Points in favour of this man'. Then he listed the man's strengths, including how he'd once helped the company make the right decision and earn them millions of dollars.

One of the senior executives who witnessed it later force myself to sit down and compile a list of the good qualities they have. By the time I have finished, I have the right perspective. And best of all, my anger is under control. I can't tell you how many times this habit has prevented me from committing one of life's costliest mistakes—losing my temper. I recommend it to anyone who must deal with people.

So before you jump to conclusions about someone, stop and ask God for wisdom, then sit down and make a list of their best qualities. If you do you may come to a different conclusion. One thing is for sure, you'll approach them with the right attitude and you won't say things you'll later regret.

There's another perspective to this story.

The employer instead of writing down the good points of the erring employee, instead promotes him. On being asked why, His answer is simple, "I just spent a million dollars in making him learn an important lesson. Now why should I fire him and let him go with the lesson to my competitor?"
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